

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A connection cable comprising:
 - 2 an optical cable; and,
 - 3 an integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical cable,
 - 4 the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching
 - 5 electrical connector on a target device;
6 wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that
7 is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated
8 electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.
- 1 2. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 additionally comprising:
 - 2 a second integrated electrical connector permanently fixed to the optical
 - 3 cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to
 - 4 a matching electrical connector on a second target device.
- 1 3. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable
2 consists of a single optical fiber.

1 4. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the optical cable
2 consists of multiple optical fibers.

1 5. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission
2 through the optical cable is at least one of the following:
3 digital data transmission;
4 analog data transmission.

1 6. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein the matching
2 electrical connector is compatible with at least one of the following protocols:
3 universal serial bus (USB) protocol;
4 USB 2;
5 IEEE 1394 (Firewire);
6 Firewire 800;
7 Ethernet;
8 Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);
9 Infiniband;
10 a proprietary system interconnection.

1 7. (Original) A connection cable as in claim 1 wherein data transmission
2 through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:
3 synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;
4 optical fibre channel protocol;

5 Ethernet protocol.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A method for constructing a connection cable
2 comprising the following step:

3 permanently fixing an integrated electrical connector to an optical cable,
4 the integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to a matching
5 electrical connector on a target device;
6 wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that
7 is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated
8 electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

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1 9. (Original) A method as in claim 8 additionally comprising the
2 following step:

3 permanently fixing a second integrated electrical connector to the optical
4 cable, the second integrated electrical connector being for plug-in connection to
5 a matching electrical connector on a second target device.

1 10. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of
2 a single optical fiber.

1 11. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the optical cable consists of
2 multiple optical fibers.

1 12. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through
2 the optical cable is at least one of the following:
3 digital data transmission;
4 analog data transmission.

1 13. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein the matching electrical
2 connector is compatible with at least one of the following protocols:
3 universal serial bus (USB) protocol;
4 USB 2;
5 IEEE 1394 (Firewire);
6 Firewire 800;
7 Ethernet;
8 Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);
9 Infiniband;
10 a proprietary system interconnection.

1 14. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein data transmission through
2 the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:
3 synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;
4 optical fibre channel protocol;
5 Ethernet protocol.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting two target devices
2 comprising the following steps:

3 plugging a first integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to an
4 optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a first target device; and,

5 plugging a second integrated electrical connector permanently affixed to
6 the optical cable into a matching electrical connector of a second target device;

7 wherein data transmission through the optical cable uses a protocol that
8 is different than a protocol used for data transmission between the integrated
9 electrical connector and the matching electrical connector.

1 16. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists
2 of a single optical fiber.

1 17. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the optical cable consists
2 of multiple optical fibers.

1 18. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission
2 through the optical cable is at least one of the following:
3 digital data transmission;
4 analog data transmission.

1 19. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein the matching electrical
2 connector is compatible with at least one of the following protocols:

3 universal serial bus (USB) protocol;
4 USB 2;
5 IEEE 1394 (Firewire);
6 Firewire 800;
7 Ethernet;
8 Enterprise Systems Connection (ESCON);
9 Infiniband;
10 a proprietary system interconnection.

1 20. (Original) A method as in claim 15 wherein data transmission
2 through the optical cable is compatible with at least one of the following:
3 synchronous optical network (Sonet) protocol;
4 optical fibre channel protocol;
5 Ethernet protocol.